

ward as far as St. Clement's Dances, caused the most horrible devastation in its progress.

In 1189 (time of Richard I.) all men in the city were ordered to build up their houses to a certain height with stone, and cover them with slate.

In 1232 a great part of the city was again destroyed by fire.

It is evident from these numerous and extensive fires happening in such rapid succession, that wood was, even in the Norman period, greatly used in the buildings of London: no doubt the churches, the residences of the powerful barons, warehouses, &c. of the principal merchants, were built in the substantial manner for which the Normans were celebrated, but the great mass of the residences of the craftsmen and other Londoners were of a slight and perishable nature. Amongst the few examples of Norman domestic edifices in towns are the Jews' house at Lincoln and the example at Southampton, which we have slightly copied from Hudson Turner's interesting book on the English Domestic Architecture of the Middle Ages (No. 3).

Before 1360 (time of Edward III.) Cheapside is several times spoken of as a regularly formed street.

In 1357, John, king of France, was brought through the streets of London, which were decorated with the richest tapestry, while the citizens exhibited to public view their plate, milk, and other furniture, as a proof of their riches; and as a testimony of their warlike genius, they exposed in the balconies and shop windows an incredible number of bows, arrows, helmets, shields, harness for horses, and other military accoutrements.

1361.—The sanitary condition of London was such as to require the interference of the authorities: the news of the plague raging in France having made him sensible of the danger, the king issued his commands to the mayor and sheriffs in a letter, of which the following is a translation:—

"Because, by killing of great beasts, &c. from whose putrefied blood running down the streets, and the bowels cast into the Thames, the air of the city is very much corrupted and infected, whence abominable and most filthy stinks do proceed, sicknesses and many other evils have happened to such as have abode in the said city, or have resorted to it; and great dangers are feared to fall out for the time to come, unless remedy be presently made against it.

"We, willing to prevent such danger, and to provide as much as in us lies for the honesty of the said city, and the safety of our people, by the consent of our council in our present parliament, have ordained that all bulls, oxen, hogs, and other gross creatures, to be slain for the sustenance of the said city, be led as far as the town of Stratford on one part of London, and the town of Knightbridge on the other, and there, and not on this side, be slain; and that their bowels be there cleansed, to be brought, together with the flesh, to the said city to be sold; and if any butcher shall presume any thing rashly against this ordinance, let him incur forfeiture of the flesh of the creatures which he hath caused to be slain on this side of the said towns, and the punishment of imprisonment for one year. This ordinance to be publicly proclaimed and held; and all butchers doing otherwise to be chastized and punished according to the form of the ordinance aforesaid.—Witness, the King at Westminster, this 25th day of February."

It is a melancholy reflection that a similar measure is required in the nineteenth century.

Notwithstanding this precautionary care, the pestilence reached England, when it raged to such an astonishing degree, that in the city of London alone no less than 1,200 persons fell a sacrifice to its fury in the space of two days,—a great number, if we consider the difference of the population between those times and the present.

In 1365, the Parliament made an ordinance to ascertain what things a tenant should be obliged to leave behind him on his quitting a house that he had rented in the city, or within the liberties of London, of which the following is a translation.

It was ordained, that "if any person hire a

tenement, house, or houses, in the city of London, or in the suburbs thereof, to hold the same for a term of life or for years, or only from year to year, or from quarter to quarter, if the said tenant shall make or cause to be made any pentyses or other easements in the said tenement, house, or houses, fixed with nails of iron or wooden pegs to the premises or to the soil thereof, it shall not be lawful for such tenant to remove such pentyses or easements at the end of the term, or at any other time to destroy them; but they shall always remain to the landlord of the said premises as a parcel thereof."

In consequence of this ordinance, the mayor and aldermen published the following confirmation thereof, in which the following portions of buildings are particularly mentioned as fixtures, if "affixed with nayles of iron or of tree:"—"Pentyses, glasse, lockys, bencheyes, or any such other, or elles if they be affixed with mortar or lyme, or of either, or any other mortar, as forneys, leedys, candorons, chemyneys, corbels, pavements, or such other, or elles yf plantys be rootyd in the ground,—as vines, trees, grasse, stocks, trees of fruit," &c.

In 1369 the plague again visited London, and destroyed great numbers. About this time the city wall was repaired: it had grown "old and weak, &c. for want of repair; had fallen down in some places; as also the ditches of the city are exceedingly filled with dirt, dunghills, and other filth, and with grass growing in the same, not only to the evident danger of the said city and inhabitants thereof, but also to the manifest disgrace and scandal of us and the whole city." During the progress of these repairs, many houses outside the wall and adjoining to it were demolished, in order to afford space for defence against the then threatened French invasion.

In 1392 measures were again required to be taken against the butchers, who were directed to erect a certain house or houses, for the reception of their refuse,—thence to be carried in boats into the middle of the Thames, and to be thrown in at the turn of the tide at high water. Persons offending against this regulation were fined 10l.

The citizens of London, in 1401, converted the prison called the Tun, in Cornhill, into a conduit, for the reception of water, which was brought in leaden pipes from Tyburn.

In 1416 Sir Henry Barton, the mayor of London, ordered lanterns to be hung out for the purpose of lighting the streets at night. In 1419, Sir Thomas Eyre, the then mayor, compassionating the distresses of the poor, in consequence of the frequent scarcity of grain, built Leadenhall at his sole expense, and gave it to the City as a public granary.

Sir John Wells, another public benefactor, in 1429 laid a number of pipes at his own expense, to convey water from Tyburn to the standard in Cheapside.

The means of supplying London with water, would seem about this period to have been taken into serious consideration, as more conduits were erected in 1438, in Aldermanbury, at Cripplegate, and in Fleet-street, which were supplied with water from Highbury Barn and Tyburn.

In 1441 the cross in Cheapside, which had been originally built in 1290, in honour of Queen Eleanor, was rebuilt by John Hatherly. The same magistrate repaired certain of the conduits, &c.

About 1455, numerous schools were erected in various parts of London, and it may be observed that there were at that time within the city of London and suburbs thereof, 118 parish churches. A curious regulation was made about this time to settle the amount of offerings, or payments to the clergy, from houses, shops, &c. which will be found printed at length in "Chamberlain's London," p. 126.

In the year 1472, there was only one pair of stocks in the whole city, at the place called the Stocks Market; but this year they were ordered to be erected in every ward, for the more effectual punishment of vagabonds.

1476. The Lord Mayor, Aldermen, and Common Council, came to a resolution that the walls of the city should be repaired with bricks

made of earth, tempered, and burnt in Moor-fields.

1479. A dreadful pestilence raged in the city. 1486. More complaints against the butchers, particularly those at Newgate Market. An Act is passed, that no butcher shall presume to kill any beast within the walls of London, under a penalty of one shilling for every ox and cow so killed, and eightpence for every sheep. Our readers will perceive that the fine for this unwholesome practice had decreased.

About 1502 Henry VII. commenced the building of the chapel known by his name, at Westminster.

1503. A great fire broke out at London-bridge, which did much damage.

On the 20th June, 1509, Henry VIII. rode in great pomp from the Tower to Westminster. On that occasion Goldsmith's-row, shown in our engraving, No. 9, was gaily decorated.

Goldsmith's-row was opposite Wood-street, Cheapside, where the Cross formerly stood, and was erected in 1491, by Sir Thomas Wood Goldsmith, on the site of sheds and stalls, before called the Mercery.

We have felt it necessary, for our present purpose, to glance slightly, as we have done, at the history of London up to the above date, and in doing so have endeavoured to condense as much as possible the occurrences which have taken place during a long period, and which bear upon our subject, and will now proceed to consider the condition of the houses and shops in London during the reigns of Henry VIII. Edward VI. Mary and Elizabeth, a period of transition from the feudal governments of our forefathers to the enlightened government and liberty of the present time.

REFERENCES TO ENGRAVINGS.

- *1. Charcoal Burners' Hut, in the Forest of Dean, Gloucestershire.
2. Residence of a Saxon Nobleman; from a manuscript, No. 603, in the Harleian collection, British Museum.
- 2a. Greenstead Church.
3. Norman House, from (Hudson Turner's Domestic Architecture).
4. Norman House, engraved on a coin, date 1275 (Transactions of the British Archaeological Association).
5. Old Houses, formerly at Bishopsgate-street (Wilkinson, London).
6. Timber Houses, formerly near Smithfield (Smith's Antiquities).
- *7. The Cock, Tothill-street, Westminster.
- *8. Room in the Interior of ditto.
9. Part of Goldsmith's Row, opposite Cheapside Cross, built in the reign of Henry VIII. drawn for the Coronation Procession of Edward VI. (Cheapside Cross formerly stood opposite to Wood-street).
10. Sign of the White Horse Tavern, formerly at the corner of Friday-street, Cheapside.
11. North-East View of Cheapside, arranged for Procession, in honour of the Queen Mother Mary de Medicis.
- *12. Fragment of a Tudor Window at Smithfield Bars.

The Illustrations marked * are from existing examples.

THE COTTONIAN LIBRARY, PLYMOUTH.

—An effort is being made to raise a fund for the maintenance of the Cottonian Collection of books and MSS., prints, drawings, paintings, bronzes, models, &c. for the reception of which an addition was recently made to the Plymouth Public Library in Cornwall-street, of which we some time since gave an engraving. A circular has been issued to lovers of art and literature, for aid by subscriptions or donations. Annual subscribers of 1l. 1s. and donors of 21l. will be entitled to the special privileges of admission. The list of subscriptions is headed by His Royal Highness Prince Albert, for 50l. Mr. Jewitt, Librarian of the Plymouth Library, can give particulars.

† For the benefit of such readers as may wish to inquire into this subject further than our space will permit, we subjoin the following books of reference, and will continue to add to the number:—Stowe's *Annals*; Stowe's *London*; various editions, from 1686 to 1841; *Stowe's Illustrations of London*, published by the Society of Antiquaries; *Archæologia*; *Maitland's London*; *Pennant's London*; the *Illustrated Penant* in the print-room, British Museum; *Collection of London Topography*, King's collection; *British Museum*; *Wilkinson's London*; *King's Illustrations*; *Chamberlain's London*; *Knights' London*; *Knights' Pictorial England*; *Peter Cunningham's Hand-Book for London*; *Archæologia*; *View of Old London*; *Hudson Turner's History of the Anglo-Saxons*; *the French Palgrave's History of the Anglo-Saxons*; *Gentleman's Magazine*; *European Magazine*, *Edinburgh's Chronicle*, &c.

‡ The engravings not mentioned in this paper will be included in our next.